

AUGUST

Magic Lantern Society

NEWS 2025



Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and
roll-over effects

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Click on Slide to see some
last hurrah of summer



The Magic Lantern Calendar –August 2025

Events

Aug. 2, 2025, **Magic Lantern Show and Workshop**, children will write their own stories, then make and project the slides to illustrate them, Beeforth's Hive, South cliff Gardens, North Yorkshire, England.

Aug. 30, 2025, **Subterranean Magic Lantern Show**, Elliot & Schlemowitz present a modern magic lantern show with antique equipment underground, Century House Historical Society, The Snyder Estate, 668 Route 213, Rosendale, NY.

Oct. 10-12, 2025, **Magic Lantern Show**, Matt Schnittker at Gold Rush Live at Marshall gold Discovery State Park, 310 Back Street, Coloma CA 95613.

Oct. 18, 2025, **Autumn meeting**, Magic Lantern Society (UK), Swedenborg Hall, 20-21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH, England.

Dec. 15, 2025, **Christmas Magic Lantern Show**, featuring Dr. Nick Hiley, Salvation Army Hall, Alma Parade, Scarborough YO11 1SJ, U.K.

Through 2025, **Project Space Residency**, featuring Melissa Ferrari, Visual Studies Workshop, 31 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.

Jan. 25, 2026, **2026 Annual General Meeting**, Magic Lantern Society (UK), Musical Museum, Brentford, London, England.

Apr. 23-26, 2026, **21 st International Convention of the Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada**, Toronto, CA. Save the Date – more information coming soon!

Sundays through Thursdays, **Salem on Foot: Magic Lantern Tour**, rare and strange images projected upon shadowy walls and darkened streets, bringing life to tales of ghosts and witchcraft and murder. Derby Square, Downtown Salem, MA.

Exhibits

Through Aug. 17, 2025, **Words and Wonder: Rediscovering Children's Literature**, a rare look at juvenilia including magic lantern slides from Aesop's Fables, Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin, 300 West 21 st St., Austin, TX 78712.

Through Aug. 31, 2025, **Magic Lanterns of the Meiji Era: Sono's Magic Lantern Art**, JCII Building, 25 Ichiban-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0082, Japan.

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Calendar –continued

Through mid-October, **Portraits from the Past Exhibition**, historic portraits taken across the world, told through the lens of a magic lantern, Fair Maid's House, 15-19 North Port, Perth, Australia.

Through Dec. 28, 2026, **Im Zauber Des Lichts, Bilderwelten der Latera Magica**, an overview of children's slides production in Germany with examples from the beginnings in the 1780s to the 1930s, with children's lanterns from the same period, with their boxes, Freilichtmuseum Hessenpark, Laubweg 5, 61267 Neu-Anspach, Germany.

Through Dec. 29. 2025, **Im Zauber des Lichts – Bildrewelten der Laterna Magica: Magic Lantern and Toy Lantern Slide exhibition**, Freilicht-museum Hessenpark, Laubweg 5, 6126 Neu-Anspach/Taunus, Germany.

Ongoing, **Te Manawa Magic Box**, hands-on learning for all ages, Te Puawananga Science and Technology Centre, Museum of Transport and Technology, 805 Great North Road & 98 Motions Road, Western Springs, Auckland 1022, New Zealand.

Ongoing, **Kent Museum of the Moving Image**, newly exhibit about World War One in film and media, and Peeping and Projecting looking at peep-hole cinema. Stanhope Road, Deal, Kent CT14 6AD UK.

Online

Magic Lantern Research Group, Learn about, collaborate on academic research. Monthly on Zoom, Contact Terry Borton: tborton@magiclanternshows.com

Magic Lantern Performing Group, Improve your skills every other Wednesday on Zoom. Contact Terry Borton: tborton@magiclanternshows.com

Media History Digital Library, <https://mediahistoryproject.org/collections/magic-lantern/> Magic lantern ephemera.

De Luikerwaal Dutch Virtual Museum, <https://www.luikerwaal.com/> Magic lantern history, pictures, stories.

Lucerna – the Magic Lantern Web Resource, online database collaboration covering all aspects of magic lanterns. <http://lucerna.exeter.ac.uk/>

The Museum of American Magic Lantern Shows, 5-minute intro, 10-minute Highlights Tour, 30-minute In-Depth Tour and Kids' Page. www.magiclanternmuseum.com

To add your magic lantern show, exhibition, or other event to our calendar, or to list your show for potential bookings, drop a line to briandrogers@gmail.com.

2026 CALL FOR PROPOSALS



The Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada

is pleased to invite proposals for our 21st International Convention Immersive Screen Arts: Projecting, Collaborating, Creating -

We invite proposals from artists, performers, researchers, educators, students, archivists, and collectors on the magic lantern and other related visual entertainments. Proposals that cross-pollinate and blend analogue and digital media and use the vibrant storytelling and immersive practices of magic lantern projection and adjacent media to dialogue with contemporary political, social, and environmental issues are especially welcome.

**April 23-26th, 2026
- Toronto, Canada.**



Presentation topics might include, but are not limited to ...

- Traditional lantern shows and re-enactments
 - Original research or research-creation performances and workshops on
 - magic lantern history
 - 19th-century screen practice
 - slides, exhibitors, and showmanship
 - Canadian magic lantern heritage
 - Indigenous perspectives and narratives
 - Global case studies and peep-practices
 - panorama slides, moving panoramas, dioramas, cosmoramas, pleoramas
 - immersive spectacles, lantern technology and early cinema
 - lantern stereoscopes, stereoscopic lantern pictures, stereomania
 - 3D anaglyph shadow projection
 - 3D augmented reality
 - light and shadow work
 - shadowgraphy
 - Immersive color - slide painting, autochromes, Ives's; Kromoskop, Kodachrome
 - painting with light, projection photography
 - creative, artistic re-use and re-imagining of hand-painted antique glass slides
 - creative, artistic re-use and re-imagining of 35mm slides
 - lantern in education
 - lantern and the Victorian technological imagination
 - sensorial immersion, from the lantern to VR, AR, 360 degree video, video games
 - immersive storytelling
 - the art of projection and the avant-garde
- We welcome other presentations related to the convention theme or the Black Creek exhibition "Invented: Propelled by Imagination"

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2026 CALL FOR PROPOSALS continued

Conference Venue:

Performances, presentations and workshops will be held Friday and Saturday at the Village at Black Creek, one of Canada's premiere living history museums. Additional programming will be held Sunday morning at York University's Executive Learning Centre. We will also have rehearsals, set up and possibly a workshop at the Village Thursday afternoon. The audience will primarily be members of the Society, although the general public and guests are also invited.

You do not need to be a member of the society to submit a proposal!

We welcome all presentations that further the stated purposes of the Society:

1. To support and promote education through exhibitions and shows, or other suitable means, that inform the public about the history and development of magic lanterns, lantern slides, related material, and their methods of use.

2. To support the collecting, preservation, researching, cataloging, restoration, and care of magic lanterns, lantern slides, and related material, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Source Material:

Presenters are encouraged to use original source material, i.e. original lantern slides projected using a magic lantern, in a manner appropriate to the historical nature of the slides. If reproductions or copies of slides are used, that should be clearly stated.

The Society recognizes the difficulties and hazards of traveling with original source materials. If a digital projection method is proposed, presenters are strongly encouraged to incorporate a few original slides into their presentation to illustrate original format, quality, colors, and special effects.

The length of conference presentations varies. Generally:

- Performances and events are 10 to 50 minutes with extra time for setup.
- Workshops are 90 minutes.
- Research and academic presentations are 20 minutes with 15 minutes for Q&A.
- Longer and shorter presentations will be considered based on the overall convention schedule and the subject matter proposed. If you propose a longer presentation, please specify the proposed length of your presentation.
- Exhibitions and Poster Sessions - in-person poster presentations are also encouraged.

Proposal Requirements and Deadline:

Please submit a brief description of your proposed presentation topic (short paragraph) and a brief bio (3-5 sentences) by email to Janelle Blankenship by **Sept. 26th, 2025.**

We will contact you if additional information is needed regarding content, technical or logistical requirements etc. Proposals will be reviewed in October and notices sent out by November 2025. Please note that it may not be possible to accept all proposals.

Janelle Blankenship:
blankenship.office@gmail.com



More on the Buckeye Stereopticon Saga

From Ron Easterday

**Follow-up to the Buckey
Stereopticon article in the
MLG Vol 36, No. 4**

Thanks to sharp-eyed Lindsay Lambert for forwarding me this eBay item. It seems the opening statement of my article is reinforced again "...and a willingness, or perhaps necessity, to produce for sale most anything that could be manufactured by forming light-gauge sheet metal..."

Buckeye Stereopticon
Company, Cleveland, Ohio
"The Tourist" Metal
Clothes Hanger,
Pat January 3, 1905



An Esoteric Collectible



Photographic equipment manufacturers have produced some weird items to promote their business. They still do. One of the weird items - if not the prize winner - is The Tourist break-apart coat hanger of 1905, a promotional piece by the Buckeye Stereopticon Co. of Cleveland. The patented coat hanger is made of stamped black tin. So far, so good. Push two hidden buttons on either side of the centre section and the arms come off. The hook folds down making the full size coat hanger a compact 3 piece hanger. Presumably it is for travelers, thus its name "The Tourist". Buckeye made card and photograph projectors, illuminated by acetylene or electricity which were named "Little Buckeye" and "Mirroscope". They also produced "High Grade Stereopticons for educational, scientific and amusement purposes" according to a 1900 ad in Cosmopolitan magazine.

(From The New England Journal of Photographic History)

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Buckeye Stereopticon Saga continued

But this was no ordinary clothes hanger, according to this article it was a promotional advertising piece that folded with two “hidden buttons” according to Back Focus – The Journal of the Photographic Collectors Society (inc) Australia, Volume 10 No 3, May 1994. The patent shows how it is constructed.



I have found no documentation that it was truly a “promotional item,” but perhaps, as I also have found no general advertisements for the hanger like their other household items such as the coffee grinders, roasting and baking pans.

From Matthew Graff

I thought I would share this with everyone.

A couple weeks ago, I went to the national motor tour in Tahoe put on by the "Amalgamated Order Of Motor Campers". This is a group of people that like to do vintage camping from the early 20th century. I brought my magic lantern and presented on logging in the Sierra specifically at Hume Lake. (Local history and logins as the focus of my collection. The first slides I got were from Chase Rice, who was a professor from New England. He made amateur slides of human Lake and his whole trip across the US.) I don't have recording, but I have a few pictures and a video of the event.

Matthew Graff
Fresno, California

From Terry Borton

tborton@magiclanternshows.com wrote:

I haven't been overwhelmed with requests to present at the ML Performers' Group, so I'm giving us a rest over the summer.

I'll send out a message in the Fall to look for those who would like to present and get feedback in our usual format.

So . . . perform and polish on your own for June, July, August, and be ready to dazzle us all in the Fall.

All the Best,
Terry



National Motor Tour - Tahoe 2025
- Amalgamated Order Of Motor Campers
#vintageCamping youtube.com

From Matt Schnittker

mschnitt@gmail.com:

OK. For future meetings, here is what I'm working on where I'll want feedback.

Circus Show -

I've now performed this hundreds of times. I'd like some feedback on where it is.

Victorian Puns -

I've added a lot to this show. Would be good to see if folks think it is "G" or "PG" now.

Civil War Show -

I'm working on a new version for January 2026.

Tam 'O Shanter -

Still in work

Gulliver's Travels -

Still in work

Robinson Crusoe -

Still in work.

Babe's in the woods -

Does anyone actually perform this depressing show?

Also, I'm chatting with Red Barn about doing shows at the Dickens Fair this year. Don't know if it will go anywhere, but I'll be working on shows for that. Possibly a "holiday" show.



Magic Lantern Show in Brazil

From Rafael de Luna Freire

rafaellunafreire@id.uff.br

Dear David,
How are you?

My name is Rafael de Luna and I am a film professor and film archivist in Brazil. I have also been a member of the Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada some years ago, when I was studying in the US.

Next year, my University in Brazil will be hosting the conference of Domitor - the Society for the Study of Early Cinema. It will be held for the first time outside Europe or the US. My idea is to put on a magic lantern show on opening night, **June 10, 2026**. It would be held in a beautifully restored 19th century theater in Niterói, where the city's first film screening took place.

I am looking for fellow lanternists, who have their own lantern and slides, and would be interested in putting on this show for a mixed international and local audience. We would not be able to offer a high fee, but we would cover all expenses with travelling to and accommodation in Brazil.

Best wishes,

Rafael de Luna Freire
Coordenador do Laboratório Universitário de
Preservação Audiovisual / LUPA-UFF



<https://domitor.org/>

About Edmondson Co. of Cleveland Ohio

From Ron Easterday

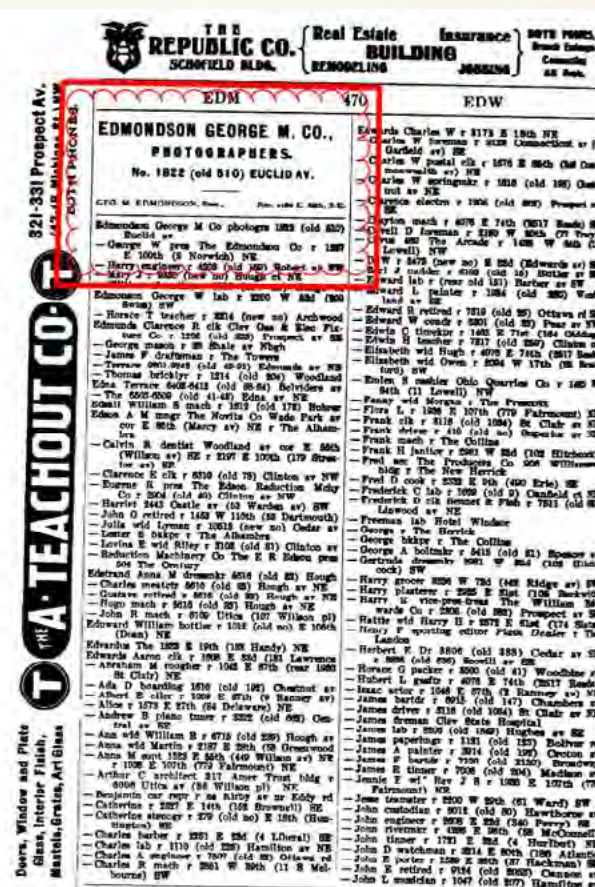
To
John Gallaro

John, I did a quick search of the first and last city directories I have from the Buckeye research, there are of course, more editions to search if they are of interst.

But from 1907 and 1912 we find the Edmondson Co photographers first George M. Edmondson at 1822 Euclid Ave then by 1912 George W. Edmonson at 2362 Euclid Ave. Sanborn maps would give info about the size of building and perhaps activities.

Thanks so much Ron! I'll check them out.

John Gallaro



Page 470 from 1907 The_Cleveland_Directory Co.'s

**Page 1910 of 1907 The
Cleveland Directory Co.'s**

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Sale Items

Lantern Bellows Two Versions



5 inches wide x $4\frac{5}{8}$ inches High
Stretches to 11 inches long

\$5 EA
PLUS SHIPPING



5 inches wide x 5 inches High
Stretches to 10 inches long

Contact

Larry Cederblom
designerlc@comcast.net

\$40
PLUS SHIPPING

Book: Magic Images
the art of hand-painted and photographic
lantern slides (London: Magic Lantern Society, 1990)



editors
CROMPTON, Dennis,
HENRY, David,
HERBERT, Stephen
London:
Magic Lantern Society
96 pages, hardback
8.3 inches wide
height x 11.4 inches)

A Big Thank You to the following:

Janelle Blankenship
Terry Borton
Ron Easterday
David Evans
Rafael de Luna Freire
John Gallaro
Matthew Graff
Brian Rogers
Matt Schnittker

**for contributing
to this month's issue.**